



NEWS RELEASE

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POTATO VARIETIES 2019 SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO

This report provides the results of a special survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley, which was conducted to evaluate potato varieties planted for the 2019 crop. The survey was conducted by the USDA/NASS Mountain Region Field Office with funding from the Colorado State University, San Luis Valley Research Center. Data was collected from potato growers by return mail or by telephone interviews with enumerators. The survey was not sampled to provide a direct expansion of seeded acreage by variety or a measure of the sampling error. Acreage planted to fall potatoes in the San Luis Valley was estimated at 48,600 acres.

Russet varieties accounted for 75.1 percent of the reported acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2019 crop, compared with 80.9 percent in 2017. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 12.6 percent of the total acreage, which was up from 6.6 percent in 2017. **Red varieties** represented 5.4 percent of the total, an increase from 5.1 percent in 2017. The remaining 7.0 percent of the total was made up of **White, Fingerlings, and Other varieties**.

Russet Norkotah continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 44.7 percent of the total potato acreage and accounted for 59.4 percent of all russet potatoes. **Norkotah Selection 296** is the most popular, accounting for 17.9 percent of the total acres planted. **Norkotah Selection 3** claimed 11.9 percent of the acreage; **Norkotah Selection 8** accounted for 7.2 percent of the planted acres. **Norkotah 278** had 3.8 percent of the planted acres. The **Canela Russet** ranked first among non Norkotah russet varieties in 2019 by being planted on 10.6 percent of the total acreage and representing 14.1 percent of all russet varieties. The **Centennial Russet** was the second most popular non Norkotah russet variety, at 8.0 percent of the total acreage and 10.7 percent of all russet potatoes. **Mesa Russet** planted acreage accounted for 6.1 percent of planted acreage. All **Other Russet varieties**, which includes Classic, Innovator, Nugget, Rio Grande, Tébina, Teton and others, were planted on 5.7 percent of the total acreage in the San Luis Valley.

Red varieties accounted for 5.4 percent of the planted acreage in 2019. No particular variety or type received enough reports to publish separately.

Yellow varieties accounted for 12.6 percent of the planted acreage in 2019. **Yukon Gold** was the most planted accounting for 3.1 percent of the total acreage and represented 24.7 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. The **Soraya** variety was planted on 1.5 percent of the total acreage and represented 11.5 percent of all yellow varieties. **Other Yellow Flesh varieties** totaled 8.0 percent of all potatoes planted.

Total White, Fingerlings and Other varieties, including research varieties and other specialty type potatoes, comprised the remaining 7.0 percent of the total potato acreage. No particular variety or type received enough reports to publish separately.

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	2014 Crop	2015 Crop	2016 Crop	2017 Crop	2019 Crop	
Variety	Reported Percent of All Potatoes				Reported Percent of All Potatoes	Reported Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent 1/				Percent 1/	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah.....	40.3	35.3	37.9	43.4	44.7	59.4
Norkotah 296.....	4.0	7.0	13.8	12.5	17.9	23.8
Norkotah 3.....	23.4	13.0	9.3	7.5	11.9	15.8
Norkotah 8.....	7.2	9.7	3.8	10.4	7.2	9.5
Norkotah 278.....	1.5	1.8	6.5	7.7	3.8	5.1
Norkotah, all other 2/.....	4.2	3.8	4.4	5.4	3.9	5.2
Canela Russet.....	9.6	10.5	11.9	10.4	10.6	14.1
Centennial Russet.....	3.8	4.9	3.2	4.3	8.0	10.7
Mesa Russet.....	...	...	...	...	6.1	8.1
Classic Russet.....	8.3	5.9	5.4	D	D	D
Rio Grande Russet.....	6.3	2.5	3.7	4.2	D	D
Teton Russet.....	0.9	...	4.9	5.2	D	D
Other Russet 3/.....	7.4	10.6	17.0	13.5	5.7	7.6
TOTAL RUSSET.....	76.6	69.7	83.9	80.9	75.1	100.0
Red Varieties:						
TOTAL RED ^{4/}	6.8	7.7	5.3	5.1	5.4	100.0
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Yukon Gold	1.8	2.6	2.9	1.5	3.1	24.7
Soraya .....	...	...	...	...	1.5	11.5
Other Yellow 5/	6.5	11.2	4.7	5.0	8.0	63.7
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH	8.3	13.8	7.6	6.6	12.6	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
TOTAL WHITE, FINGERLINGS and OTHER 6/.....	8.3	8.8	3.2	7.4	7.0	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Other Norkotahs include Norkotah 112, Norkotah 212, Norkotah Standard, and others.

3/ Other Russets for 2019 include Classic, Innovator, Nugget, Rio Grande, Tebina, Teton and others.

4/ Reds for 2019 include Cherry Red, Chieftain, Ciklamen, Colorado Rose, Modoc, Sangre and others.

5/ Other Yellows for 2019 include Alegria, Satina, and others.

6/ Other White and Other Varieties for 2019 include Austrian Crescent, Colorado Sunrise, Lamoka, Laratte, Purple Majesty, Purple Pelisse, Proprietary, Sifra, and others.

... Indicates varietal percentage is very minor or not available.

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.